

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to the identification of novel cysteine proteases in Gram-positive microorganisms. The present invention provides the nuclei acid and amino acid sequences for the *Bacillus subtilis* cysteine proteases CP1, CP2 and CP3.

5 The present invention also provides host cells having a mutation or deletion of part or all of the gene encoding CP1, CP2 or CP3. The present invention also provides host cells further comprising nucleic acid encoding desired heterologous proteins such as enzymes. The present invention also provides a cleaning composition comprising a cysteine protease of the present invention.

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